

community service within their place of worship, their neighborhood, and their greater community.

Madam Speaker, once again I would like to honor and acknowledge Congregation Adath Jeshurun for its remarkable congregational passage as a Jewish community in America through the past century and a half. I was so pleased to share in the opening event celebrating this "incredible journey." I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating this milestone and wishing "AJ" another 150 years of joy—from strength to strength!

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUSAN SEGAL**

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Susan Segal by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Susan Segal for her service as an educator in the Nevada education system for over twenty five years.

Susan has served the Las Vegas community since she began serving the Clark County School District in 1983 when she aided non-native English speaking students. Her dedication to educating Nevada's youth continued with teaching jobs at both Western High School and Chaparral High School. Susan then transitioned into administrative positions, working as the dean of students at Basic High School in 1994 and later as assistant principal at Desert Pines High School. In 2002, Susan was appointed principal of Basic High School.

Susan has become a commanding figure at Basic High School, where she can often be seen taking a direct interest in students' welfare and seeking advice and opinions from fellow staff members. Since her installment as principal, she has implemented the Upward Bound Program, accompanied the Spanish Club to Mexico and the "We the People" students to Carson City. She initiated regular meetings with the Advisory Council for the Law, Justice, and Public Service Institute. She has also acquired the proper funding to open the Dr. Joel and Carol Bower School-Based Health Center on the Basic High School campus. Susan's devotion to the Clark County School District has expanded her students' high school experiences as well as Nevada's educational system as a whole.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Susan Segal. Her dedication to enriching lives through education has touched countless Nevadans. I applaud her efforts and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

**FREEDOM FOR ERICK JESUS VALDES ALVAREZ**

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak about

Erick Jesus Valdes Alvarez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

At a time when the totalitarian regime is trying to gain acceptance from the international community by enacting smoke and mirror "reforms", we see that the repressive machine is still working hard to make every Cuban on the island suffer for having a mind of their own. Such a case is Mr. Valdes Alvarez. In November of 2007, Mr. Valdes Alvarez was categorized as a "pre-criminal social danger" for being a member of the Youth Movement for Democracy, a group that calls for the autonomy of the universities so that they become true places of thought and learning separated from the ideology and influence from the propagandist, totalitarian dictatorship.

At that time Mr. Valdes Alvarez was sentenced to 3 years of forced labor, which is the totalitarian regime's idea of "correctional work" for those who associate themselves with groups that express free thinking. Although he escaped imprisonment, the "probation" imposed on him did not last half a year. On April 25 of this year his "probation" was revoked and he was arrested by agents of the tyranny. Mr. Valdes Alvarez, a young man of only 25 years of age, now sits in one of the prisons of Castro's gulag without being charged for any crime.

What exactly did Mr. Valdes Alvarez do to cause his designation as "dangerous" and his cruel incarceration? This is impossible to fully know in the totalitarian circus of present day Cuba, but perhaps the regime was afraid of the courage and patriotism demonstrated by Mr. Valdes Alvarez.

Mr. Valdes Alvarez represents the best of the Cuban people; a people that, through brutalized and oppressed for almost half a century, have never ceased to fight for their dignity and their freedom.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that students like Mr. Valdes Alvarez are locked in dungeons for simply expressing a desire for freedom and an education free of indoctrination. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Erick Jesus Valdes Alvarez before his imprisonment turns into a death sentence, and of all the political prisoners in totalitarian Cuba.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK BY SHEMEKA GREAVES, A TSO AT CHICAGO O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, Today, I would like to recognize the outstanding work of Ms. Shemeka Greaves, a Transportation Security Officer at the Chicago O'Hare International Airport. On May 7, 2008, Ms. Greaves positively identified an 8-year old girl who had been declared "missing" the previous week and was traveling from Chicago to Atlanta. After seeing the girl's photo in a newspaper article, Ms. Greaves recalled screening the girl along with a female passenger on the morning a few days earlier. A subsequent review of checkpoint surveillance tapes showed the missing girl going through

security with a female companion. Ms. Greaves' awareness and vigilance at security checkpoint was crucial in an effort to confirm the identity of the missing girl and facilitated law enforcement officials to successfully complete their investigation and reunite her with her father.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children confirms that in our country alone, more than 2,700 children are being reported missing every day. In the last few years, Congress has passed several legislative landmarks, including the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, which addresses this issue and has fortified government efforts and mechanisms in place to reunite missing children with their families and loved ones. In addition to these government-wide efforts, law enforcement officials across all agencies remain vigilant, cautious and responsive to special alerts for missing children. Ms. Greaves, our frontline security officer at Chicago Airport, contributed to this effort, and is a great example of the caliber of employees across the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) that contribute, every day, to making our skies more secure.

TSA is responsible for securing 450 U.S. airports and employs approximately 50,000 Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) who have the very important mission of keeping the travelling public safe from terrorist threats. In the course of executing this critical homeland security mission, Transportation Officers carefully screen and inspect people, baggage, cargo and the airport. Ms. Greaves' alert, timely action serves as a great example of how TSOs, our Nation's aviation security "eyes and ears," can partner effectively with law enforcement to address criminal activities.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me today and congratulate Ms. Shemeka Greaves for her outstanding performance as a front-line homeland security officer. She, like many other TSOs in the field, has shown strong character and a commitment to protecting the flying public that goes above and beyond what is expected. As a result, Ms. Greaves helped ensure that a missing little girl child was returned to her home.

**TRIBUTE TO JERI MILSTEAD, PhD ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT**

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the remarkable career of Jeri Milstead, PhD in my district. Dr. Milstead is retiring in June 2008 after decades of illustrious nursing and public service.

Dr. Milstead serves as Dean of the College of Nursing at the University of Toledo. Throughout her tenure, first at the Medical College of Ohio and since following the merger with the University of Toledo, Dean Milstead has led the College of Nursing with an integrity and quality which is rare. Her talent in nursing is matched by her gift as a teacher and mentor, her passion for policy, and her skill as a leader.

Dr. Milstead holds a PhD in political science with majors in health policy and comparative

politics from the University of Georgia. She received both her Master of Science and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Ohio State University, graduating cum laude. She holds a nursing diploma from Mt. Carmel Hospital School of Nursing. One of only 1500 out of nearly three million nurses, Dr. Milstead is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She is board certified as a Nurse Executive Advanced. Dr. Milstead is also a founding member of the Nightingale Policy Institute, a virtual gathering of U.S. policy nurses. She serves as Chair of the Board of Commissioners of the Commission on Nurse Certification. She is a member of the Health Policy Council of the Ohio Nursing Association and the American Academy of Nursing's Expert Panel on Global Health. Appointed to the Toledo Lucas County Port Authority, Dr. Milstead has traveled to China, Cuba, and Jordan and evaluated programs in these countries.

Jeri Milstead has received many awards and accolades throughout her career. She was awarded the American Nursing Association's first Search for Excellence Award. She has been honored by Ohio's General Assembly for her leadership and service. She was awarded a Duquesne University Creative Teaching Award for her pioneering design and implementation of the first online course taught in the first online nursing PhD program offered in the world. Her own institution recognized her efforts by awarding her its Career Achievement Award.

Internationally respected as an expert in public policy and the politics of health care, Dr. Milstead is well-published in this arena and nursing. In addition to several books and journal publications, she was Editor-in-Chief of *The International Nurse* for eleven years until its recent cessation.

Jeri Milstead has been a guiding light in nursing and health care worldwide. Her caring work has been inspirational, and her counsel invaluable. Her retirement leaves shoes nearly impossible to fill, yet her imprimatur is everywhere: in her profession, the university, our nation and world. She will most certainly be missed. As she begins this new journey in her life we wish for Jeri time spent doing what she most enjoys with those for whom she most cares. Godspeed.

**RECOGNIZING WESTCARE HEALTH  
SYSTEM FOR THEIR DEDICATION  
AND SERVICE TO WESTERN  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to all of the employees of WestCare Health System.

When an unexpected event occurred at a neighboring hospital in Western North Carolina, the physicians and staff of WestCare Health System, which includes Harris Regional Hospital, recognized the urgency of the situation and took action to address a regional health care crisis. They made the necessary adjustments to serve both those in need of health care, and the professionals responsible for providing vital services, such as surgery and emergency care.

The services and credentialing staff of WestCare worked long hours to assist displaced physicians in obtaining the proper clearance needed to treat patients and perform surgeries at Harris Regional Hospital. Despite the increased patient volume, every member of the staff stepped in to do their part to help, ensuring that Harris Regional Hospital remained a clean, safe place to receive medical treatment.

The flexibility that this staff showed through this time is truly something to be appreciated and admired. The increased workloads were a challenge to both the professional and personal lives of the WestCare staff. Projects were put on hold, sleep was lost, and family time dwindled. For this, on behalf of the patients that were able to obtain care at this facility, who may have otherwise had to do without, I would like to say thank you for the sacrifices that you made in order to make sure they had the care that they needed.

I would like to commend and thank all of the staff of WestCare for ensuring that every patient that walked through their doors would receive the high quality health care that they deserved from staff and were treated in a friendly and efficient manner.

The region has noticed WestCare Health System's efforts. Community leaders have recognized the staff's response and dedication. Patients have expressed their appreciation through letters to WestCare's CEO Mark Leonard. This brand of endurance and care for our neighbors when they are in need is not only a characteristic of the WestCare staff, but rather of the people of Western North Carolina.

I am proud to represent an area where I know that we can count on those around us to help us in times of trouble. To the staff at WestCare, I cannot thank you enough for your hard work and dedication to serving those around you in a time of need.

IN MEMORY OF KEITH AND  
JAYNIE PAULSON, VINCE  
WHITELEY, AND JENNIFER  
DRAKE

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the all too short lives of Keith and Jaynie Paulson, Vince Whiteley, and Jennifer Drake, residents of my district, who died tragically in a small plane crash on May 23, 2008.

The epitome of the all-American family, Keith and Jaynie Paulson moved to the village of Albion on the Mendocino coast in northern California in 1976 and immediately became an integral and respected part of the community. A former high school science teacher from the Bay Area, Keith originally planned to develop hydroponic greenhouses.

Once he purchased a tractor, he was hired to do jobs for neighbors and then through word of mouth he found a niche digging trenches and installing underground utilities. In 1977, Paulson Excavating was born with Keith at the helm and Jaynie the chief financial officer. By 1981, the company had grown to the point of bidding on jobs in and outside of

Mendocino County installing telecommunications components and doing projects for public agencies including cities, counties, special districts and the State. Their workforce grew from a core of 15 to as many as 75 employees.

Known and respected by their peers for exemplary business practices, the Paulsons were also beloved by colleagues and neighbors on the Mendocino coast, where their roots were deep. They raised two children, Amy and Brian, and were involved in their school, sports and other extra curricular activities. Bryan continues the work of Paulson Excavating. Amy is mother to the 3 Paulson grandchildren: Lincoln, Jackson, and Anna.

Jaynie served on the Mendocino Unified School District Board from 1991 until 2004. Keith also served for a short time on the school board and was the coach of the Mendocino High School golf team. He was a member of the Albion-Little River Volunteer Fire Department for 7 years and held various officer positions. A meticulous and expert pilot for 25 years, Keith was appointed as pilot representative to the Little River Airport Advisory Committee in 2007 by the County of Mendocino.

The tragedy, which took their lives, also claimed Amy's husband, Vince Whiteley, a graphic artist from Windsor and Bryan's longtime girlfriend, Jennifer Drake from Albion. The Mendocino coast community is left with a hole in the hearts of so many. Accolades and tributes to this sterling couple and their children's mates help the grieving as we try to make sense of their loss.

Madam Chair and colleagues, please join me in conveying our deepest sympathy to the children, loved ones, and the community, during this sorrowful time as we recognize and honor the lives and contributions of Keith and Jaynie Paulson and Vince Whiteley and Jennifer Drake.

HONORING RICHARD R. NIEMANN  
OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 3, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard R. Niemann on the occasion of his retirement from the Napa Valley Unified School District after 39 years of teaching. Richard will be truly missed by his friends, colleagues and most of all, his students.

Mr. Niemann received his B.A. in History and Business Administration from Fresno State University and went on to graduate studies in International Relations at the University of the Americas in Mexico City in 1969. His love for learning led him to get his teaching credential from Fresno State University in Standard Secondary-History, Economics, Political Science, and Business. In 1976, Mr. Niemann received a Life Administrative Credential in Education and his M.A. in History from Sonoma State University in 1981.

Mr. Niemann has devoted his life to the education of others and has greatly influenced many of the students and faculty members he has worked with. He is not only a phenomenal educator, but a sterling role model for the